

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWING**

Enclosed herewith are "New Sheets" (Figures 5 and 9) and which complies with § 1.84.

**REMARKS****DISCUSSION OF DRAWING**

The drawings are objected to because elements 54 and 52 point to the same conductor in Figure 5 and because elements 52A and 54B point to the same conductor in Figure 9. In response thereto, "New Sheets" (Figures 5 and 9) are enclosed herewith in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), wherein elements 54, 52, 52A, and 54B point to different conductors. Furthermore, "Annotated Sheets" are enclosed herewith indicating the changes made to the previous version. Applicants respectfully request acceptance of new Figures 5 and 9.

**DISCUSSION OF SPECIFICATION**

In response to the objection of the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show element 112 as described in the specification, reference numeral "112" has been deleted from specification on page 11, line 11. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

**DISCUSSION OF CLAIMS**

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 8, 10, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,141,576 to Littmann et al.

In the Office Action, claims 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,141,576 to Littmann et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,796,044 to Cobain et al.

In the Office Action, claims 9 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,141,576 to Littmann et al. in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0055764 to Malonek et al.

In the Office Action, claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,141,576 to Littmann et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,934,589 to Sundquist.

In response thereto, claim 2 has been cancelled and claims 1 and 14 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-14 are now pending. Following is a discussion of the patentability of each of the pending claims.

#### Independent Claim 1

Claim 1 recites an implantable cardiac stimulation lead system comprising at least a pair of conductors that are braided together and extending between proximal and distal ends and co-extruded with flexible resilient insulation material to form a lead body. Each of the conductors comprises a solid core having multi-strand cable and an outer peripheral surface coated with insulative material.

The Littmann et al. reference discloses a system for detecting electrical activity within a patient's heart comprising a guidewire or a catheter. The guidewire comprises a braided tubular member (14) having electrode conductors (15) (see Figure 4). The catheter comprises a braided tubular member (34) having individual electrical conductors (38).

The Littman et al. reference does not disclose or suggest each of the conductors comprising a solid core having multi-strand cable. The guidewire comprises a braided tubular member having electrode conductors disposed along the periphery and a central lumen to receive a core member (19), and the catheter comprises a braided tubular member having individual electrical conductors disposed along the periphery and a central inner lumen (32) to receive a guidewire.

The Cobain et al., Malonek et al., and Sundquist references are cited in combination with the Littmann et al. reference because they allegedly disclose PTFE or ETFE coatings, MP35N, sensing electrodes, and introducer sheaths. However, nowhere do these references disclose or suggest conductors comprising a solid core having multi-strand cable and an outer peripheral surface coated with insulative material.

The Cobain et al. reference is directed to leads having coil conductors, and the coil conductors having inner surfaces forming a lumen. As such, nowhere does the Cobain et al. reference disclose or suggest a conductor comprising multi-strand cable. Furthermore, nowhere does the Cobain et al. reference disclose or suggest a conductor comprising a solid core having multi-strand cable. In Cobain et al., the various cable conductors comprise an inner surface forming a lumen.

The Malonek et al. reference discloses a multi-electrode lead having a coil conductor (40) with an inner surface forming a shaft (11) (see Figure 16). Thus, nowhere does the Malonek et al. reference disclose or suggest a multi-strand cable. Furthermore, no where does the Malonek et al. reference disclose a conductor comprising a solid core having multi-strand cable. The coil conductor comprises an inner surface forming a shaft.

The Sundquist reference discloses a system and method for placing endocardial leads. The system comprises a guidewire and a coupling member. Nowhere does the Sundquist reference disclose or suggest a lead with conductors comprising a solid core having multi-strand cable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

#### Dependent Claims 3-13

Claims 3-13 depend from claim 1 and are similarly patentable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are in condition for allowance.

#### Independent Claim 14

For at least the same reasons discussed above with regards to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claim 14 is in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims 15 and 16

Claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 14 and are similarly patentable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice of allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

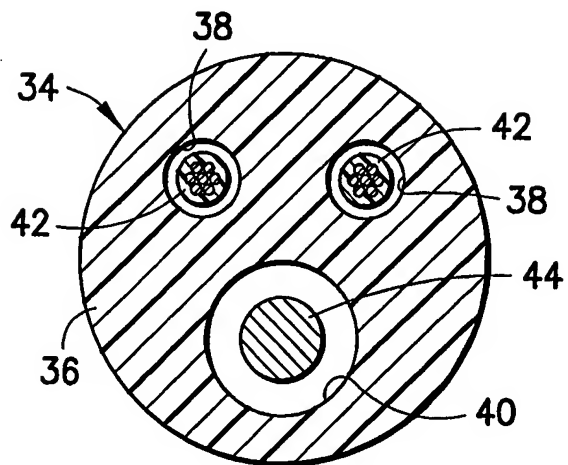
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Date

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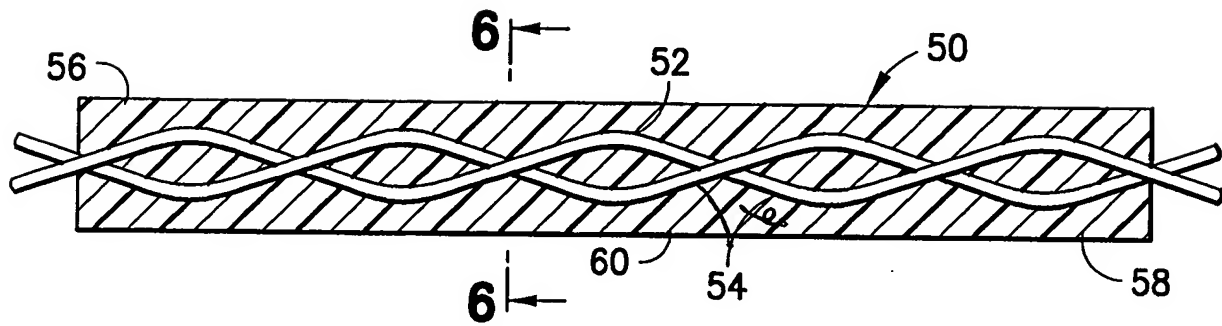
Enclosures: 2 Sheets Replacement Drawings (Figs. 5 and 9)

**CUSTOMER NUMBER: 36802**

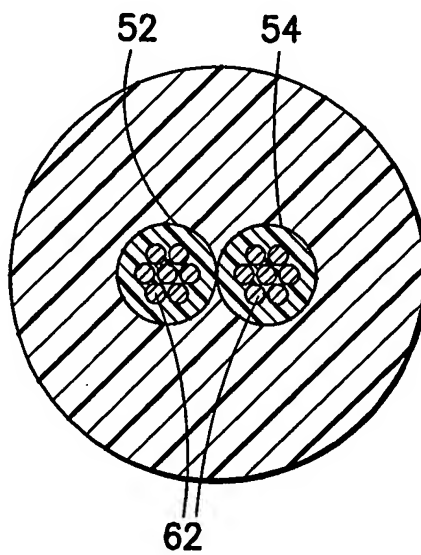


**FIG. 3**

PRIOR ART



**FIG. 5**



**FIG. 6**

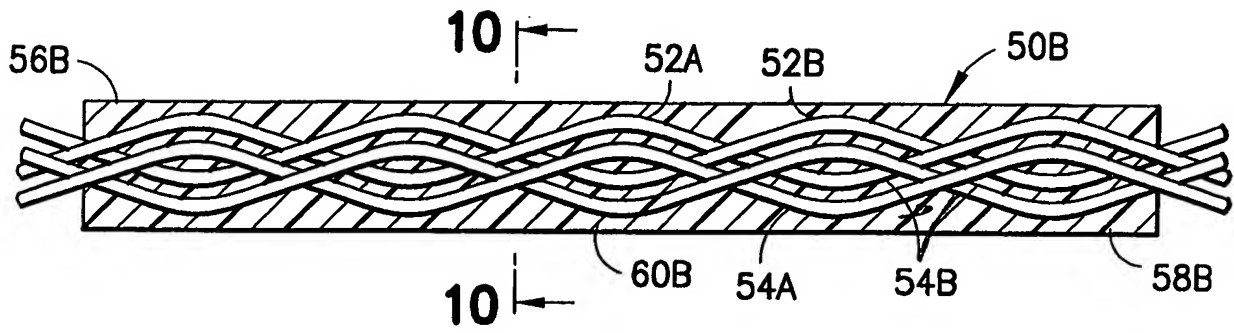


FIG. 9

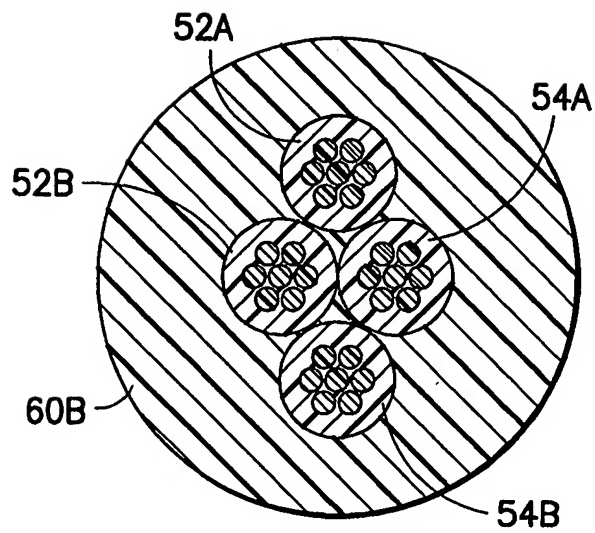


FIG. 10